

POLLUTION REPORT

11/10/99
IS
EPA Region 5 Records Ctr.



206292

I. HEADING

Date: November 10, 1999

Subject: Industrial Highway/Gary Municipal Airport Oil Release Site,
Gary, Lake County, Indiana

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POLREP: #5 - (Reporting period 10/12/99 thru 11/7/99)

II. BACKGROUND

CERCLIS ID No: IND067469437
Site No: Z590
FPN: 098022
IAG No: RW69947898-01-0
ID No: 99HR05F50203D
Start Date: 4/7/99
Completion Date: N/A

USGS Hydro Unit: 04040001
Task Order No: 9801-05-025
Response Authority: OPA Fund-lead
NPL Status: N/A
State Notification: IDEM
Mobilization Date: 4/8/99
Action Memo Status: N/A

III. SITE DESCRIPTION

- A. Incident Category:** Time-Critical Removal Action - Oil Release Hazard
B. Site Location: Gary, Lake County, Indiana
LAT: 41° 37' 13" North; LONG: 87° 25' 14" West

1. Site Description:

A ditch system which drains portions of the Gary/Chicago Municipal Airport and surrounds the periphery of this airport contains excess amounts of oil and oily products on the western edge of this facility. The ditch system contains water, at depths of one foot to six feet, in it throughout the year and it empties, through a series of culverts and inverts, into the Grand Calumet River which flows at the southern most boundary of the airport, and it articulates with an identified natural wetlands area. The source of the oil may be from the past operations of an oil refinery located on the opposite side of the Elgin, Joliet and Eastern Railroad (EJ&E) tracks to the west of this site. Oil has been and continues to accumulate along the western leg of this ditch creating a release hazard which imminently and substantially endangers the riverine environment of the Grand Calumet River.

2. Description of threat:

Extensive oil and free phase petroleum product releases, accumulation and contamination in the ditch over an approximate 1700 linear ft. area distance flowing in the immediate direction of the Grand Calumet River. Likewise, a natural wetlands area with varied species of wildlife is potentially impacted by this oil release hazard.

C. Preliminary Assessment

The release hazard was initially documented in U.S. EPA site assessment reports prepared in 1992. The oil product release hazard was addressed by an intricate pump and treat system as an oil and water separator. The system was shut down in the summer of 1995, and did not become operational again until September 1999 when it was serviced and reactivated. Overall efficiency of the existing system needs to be evaluated insofar as its ability to remove oil and hydrocarbon products, and its apparent capability to discharge "treated water" to the groundwater. Extensive seeps and oily free phase product releases have been continuous in the subject ditch system and into adjacent areas to the west and south of the site, and were addressed during our initial mobilization which commenced on 4/8/99.

IV. RESPONSE INFORMATION

A. Situation

Refer to POLREP #3, dated 6/14/99, and POLREP #4, dated 10/13/99, for a summary of response actions conducted from 4/7/99 to 10/11/99.

1. Current situation and status of response actions:

On 11/1/99 U.S. EPA contractor personnel began to excavate the oil contaminated soil from the ditch, starting near the west end of Runway 12-30, and moving northeast towards the product recovery system. As of 11/6/99, approximately 1,000 yd³ of the soil had been excavated along a 240 ft. long section of the ditch. The excavated soil is being transported to a stockpile area to the south for later disposal. Because the soil in the ditch is very wet and silty it is being mixed with fly ash to a consistency of approximately 30% fly ash/70% soil before being excavated. The ditch is being excavated in approximately 30 ft x 30 ft cells down to a gray sand layer located below the dark silty material. A cleanup confirmation sample has been collected from each cell and submitted for total petroleum hydrocarbon (TPH) analysis. Periodic boom inspection, maintenance, and replacement continues to be conducted.

Recovery well #3 to the south of recovery wells #1 and #2; and recovery well #4 located along the ditch to the east, were both integrated with the existing product recovery system 10/18/99. Since the system was reactivated on 9/24/99, approximately 528,000 gallons of treated water has been discharged to the groundwater (as of 11/6/99), and approximately 400 gallons of oil has been recovered. The oil is being stored in a tank for later disposal.

B. Planned Removal Actions

Planned consultation with the Natural Resources Trustees representatives are pending to determine ecological concerns and potential impacts, whether short-term or long-term beneficial, from the current conditions at this site upon the wetlands areas which bound the locale of the oil release hazard. Discussions with local environmental groups relating to ecological hazard reduction continues.

U.S. EPA contractor personnel will continue to excavate the oil contaminated soil from the ditch.

C. Key Issues

1. Determination of responsible party for generating the uncontrolled oil release product which enters the site.
2. Installation of an FAA prescribed 36" x 500' or possibly 48" x 1000' culvert in ditch may be responsibility of Gary Regional Airport Authority as a permanent structure and appurtenance to long-term airport runway upgrade. The administrative process continues.
3. At the time this report was issued lime kiln dust was being tested as a replacement for fly ash to determine if excavation rates can be increased. Disposal costs will be cut substantially if lime kiln dust is used instead of fly ash (less than half as much lime kiln dust is required to solidify the soil).

V. COSTS

Extramural Costs:

Total Cleanup Contractor Costs	\$ 260,298.
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START	\$ 15,467.
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TOTAL, EXTRAMURAL COSTS:	<u>\$ 275,765.</u>
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Intramural Costs:

Direct Costs (Region, HQ, ERT)	N/A
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Intramural Indirect Costs	N/A
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TOTAL, INTRAMURAL COSTS:	N/A
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TOTAL SITE COST	PENDING
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PROJECT CEILING	\$ 620,000.
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PROJECT FUNDS REMAINING AS A PERCENTAGE	44%
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* The above accounting of expenditures is an estimate based on amounts known by the OSC at the time of preparation of this report. The cost accounting data shown in this report does not necessarily represent the exact monetary figures which the U.S. Government may include in any claim for cost recovery.

VI. DISPOSITION OF WASTES

None.